Debate in the United States Senate.

MR. SEWARD'S EXPUNGING RESOLUTION.

The Squatters, Bright and Fitch, Sustained.

Semespondence of The N. Y. Tribane. WASHINGTON, Feb. 14. 1859, The debate in the Senate to-day, on the Indiana contested election case, was one of the ablest that has taken place during this Congress. At the close of Mr. Hunter's speech on the Tariff, the new Senators from Oregon, the thirty-third State of the Union, were sworn in, and then the case was called up. The following is an abstract of the de-

bate, reported for THE N. Y. TRIBUNE: Mr. Collange desired to call up the case of the adiana Senators. If the Chair decided that it was Indians Senators. If the Chair decided that it was not a privileged question, he would move to take it up.
The Vace-President said the motion was one of privilege, but yet under the control of the Senate.
The Senate having decided to lay it on the table, he had the right, as a matter of privilege, at any time to make the motion, but it would require a vote to take

Mr. COLLANER moved to take the matter up. nght it strange that Senators should not be hought it strange that Senators should not be willing a pass upon the question of whether these men should be heard or not. It would be only common courteey to nferm them of their decision on that point.

Mr. Bayard considered that the action of the Sen de in laying the subject on the table had the effect of ischarging the Judiciary Committee, which was all

Mr. SEWARD stated that the effect of the pending

mendment (offered by Mr. Pogn) would be practically to refuse the contestants a hearing. The motion to take up the subject prevailed, and

the pending amendments were read.

Mr. CRITTENDES said he was in favor of giving
the men an opportanity to be heard, although, in
his opinion, the former action of the Senate was final; t, as the question was now presented, it seemed to impressible to arrive at a vote upon the question of be impressible to arrive at a vote upon the questions giving them a hearing.

Mr. Bayann said the Committee reported only upon

the Indiana memorial. The prekminary question was whether the Senate would consent to rehear their leliberate decision of the last session. Until that pestion had been determined, until that decision had seen reversed, no claimant had a right to be heard on the flow.

Mr. Collawer argued that Indiana had a right to Mr. Collamer argued that Indiana had a right to be heard, by its chosen representatives here, upon this very question, which the Senator from Delaware was disposed to regard as incapable of revision. If Indiana was not to be heard by her proper representatives, she must be heard by those who did not properly represent her. An unlawful election could not be made havful by a decision of the Senate. Suppose it should appear that some Senator held his seat by forged credentials, would not the Senate have power to revise its decision admitting him to a seat? If the State Legislature, having the right to make an election, decided that they had made none until now, and proceeded to elect Senators and send them here, they ought to give those Senaters a fair hearing and not proceeded to elect Senators and send them here, they cought to give those Senators a fair hearing and not fail back upon the ground of the infallibility of some former decision. He cited precedents of contested elections in the House. In a case where members were chosen at a special election, they were unseated by members chosen at the ensuing regular election. The House then reframined and rescinded its former decision. He thought it was the right and duty of the property of the country of the property of the country of the The House then recxamined and rescinced its former decision. He thought it was the right and duty of the Senate to recxamine its decision in this case. It might be that the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Pugb) would be the proper one, after a hearing, but certainly it would be premature to adopt it before a hearing.

Mr. Pugu insisted that his amendment was not only

Mr. Pean insisted that his amendment was not only the proper one, but offered at the proper time. These claimants had no right whatever to be heard. Their credentials were no more than blank paper. They were simply the bearers of a petition from certain members of the Indiana Legislature who had sought by legislation to override the decision of the Senate, and make vacancies for these men to fill. These men, if they had a case, ought certainly to be heard, but they had a case, ought certainly to be heard, but they had no case. The first question for the Senate to determine was, whether there were any contestants here. If they could reconsider their decisions, there would be nothing to prevent contested elections from being argued over and over again. The Constitution makes the Senate "judges" of the elections of members, and their decisions are clearly judicial, and not legislative acts. Chancellor Kent had decided that, in such a case, the House acted in a judicial character. The decision of the Senate last session was an end of that case as then presented.

cision of the Senate last sesson was an end of that case as then presented.

A case of forged certificates had been supposed. In such a case, there could be a rehearing; but not if the forgery had been previously alleged and decided by the Senate. There must be a new case to authorize a new hearing. If their decision had ousted the Senate tors from Indiana, nobedy would claim that they now had a right to a rehearing. There was not a new fact alleged in this Indiana memerial. Whether the Sen-ste had erred or not, they had heard and decided the whole case which is sought to be reopened.

Mr. TRUMBULL said they were not only called upon O refuse the Senators from Indiana a hearing, but they were to be refused an opportunity to vote as whether or not they would give them a hearing. State of Indiana said this matter had not been de-cided, and the minority of the Judiciary Committee said the same; but the majority of that Committee said it had been decided, and therefore the Senate should not hear it. A vote upon the resolution of the Senate, reported without a reason for it, was to be in-terposed to shield these Senators, who hold their seats illegally. They refused to admit Senators, legally and censitutionally elected by Indiann, because at a for-mer session the Senate adopted a resolution. It was not reported, and was not pretended that the former decision was right, but in fact they were setting up this body as the constitutional electors of Senators from Indiana. He contended that the case was alto-gether different from the one which the Senate de-cided last year, and quoted from speeches of the friends of the sitting Senators made at that session, elected by Indiana, because at a forfriends of the sitting Senators made at that sersion, calleging that there was no contest, and no complaint from the Legislature or constituted authorities of lidiana, only a complaint from individuals. The Senate then did wrong, and Senators would now shield themselves behind that wrong-doing under the claim of res adjudicata. He reviewed the circumstances attending the election of the sitting members, urging that it was wholly illegal and unconstitutional. He read from the proceedings of the Houre, in the case of Claiborne and Colson, when greatlemen, now Senators, voted to rescend a solemn gestlemen, new Senators, voted to rescind a scleam adjudication of the House. He called upon those Senators to show their consistency by opposing this amendment, which would declare this question res

Mr. GREEN said the vote on the amendment pending would finally determine the right of the sitting members to retain their seats; and also that they did not want the advice of these gentleman claiming seats. The Senate was responsible for its decision, and asked fer no advice from outsiders who had no rights there. No senator could say he would be better informed after hearing these claimants than he is already. He had hoped, when the Senate had deliberately laid this subject upon the table, that it would be suffered to rest there. He proceeded to defend the former decision of the Senate, and held that it was disrespectful to the Senate and to the sitting Senators to ascent here that that State is unrepresented. The State of Indiana had not said so, because the Governor had not sanctioned this late proceeding; and, if they would go to the people of Indiana, they would decide that they were now fairly and legitimately represented. A decision as to filling a seat was of the asterior of a proceeding in rem; once decided in the affirmative or in the negative, neither side could claim a reheaving; and te do so was, in his opinion, disrespectful to the Senate.

Mr. Bayand argued that the former decision of the Senate was a finality. It was carrying out the principle that there must be, some time or other, an end to fitigation and dispute. The State of Indiana had a right only to fill vacancies occurring in her representation in the Senate had decided that no vacancy existed

ight only to fill vacancies occurring in her representa-tion in the Senate, and her attempt to elect Senators then the Senate had decided that no vacancy existed

ean act of contempt of this body. He supposed ness gentlemen sought admission upon this floor for be purpose of making stump speeches for circulation indiana. If the Senate should establish the precent of revising its decisions the tenure of the office of aited States Senator would be gone. The Constitution of the terms of of the

whether what were now denomiced as heresies would not be regarded fifty years bette, as they were fully years ago, as sound Constitutional doctrines. But never in his hie had he heard advanced between so wild, as extravegent, and so dangerous to the hierty of the people and the independence and sovereignaty of the State, as had been advanced in this body in the course of this debate. The decision of the Senate at the last session had been declared final, irrevocable, and therefore infallible. He denied that this body had ever made such a thing, or could ever make such a thing, as a final and irrevocable decision. The Senate did not possess so much wiscom that it was a thing, as a final and irrevocable decision. The Senate did not possess so much wiscom that it was impossible for them to err. They were liable, as Fox once said to the British Parliament, when that body sought to dispossess him of his seat—they were liable to act under the influence of prejudice, of passion, of power, sy, and sometimes even of corruption. The Senate was not above human frailties. And it was the right of States, he begged to remind Senators, to arraign this Senate that it is a creation of the States and a constant of the States and a creation—a servant, and not a master, of the arraign this Senate for its errors. It was their right to teach this Senate that it is a creation of the States—not a creator—a servant, and not a master, of the avereign States of this confederacy. The States were not to be allenced and stiffed by a resolution or mandate of the Senate. The power by which complaints are stiffed is the power which makes revolutions. They might strike, but they must first hear. Not even in a despotism was it safe to strike without first according to the victim an opportunity to be heard. He denied the position assumed by some Senators, that the decision of the last session was of the nature of a judgment. There could be no judgment pronounced, except by a Judicial power; and, not being clothed with Judicial power by the Constitution, the Senate could not, therefore, pronounce a judgment. He argued at some length that the Senate was purely a legislative body, and incapable, under the Constitution, of any acts but legislative acts. He produced the Senate journals containing the record of a resolution passed by the Senate in 1834, censuring Gen. Jackson for the removal of the deposits. Three years afterward, he found another resolution, ordering that the resolution of censure passed by the former body be expurged, and then it was, with deep black lines drawn sround it, and the words "expunged by order of the Senate," written across it. He expected to be borne down here, but he wished to give the Senate notice that he should follow the example of the fellowing notice that he should follow the example of the preceent to which he had referred, and offer the following

resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by the Senate on the 12th of June, 1858, which resolution is in these words, to wit:

"Resolved That Graham N. Fitch and Jesse D. Brigat, Senators in the season of the season which they now hold to the seats which they now hold to the Senate as such Secretary adversald, the former until the 4th of March, 1861, "and the latter until the 4th of March, 1863, according to the "tenor of their respective credentials," be expunsed from the opening, and for that purpose, the Secretary of the Senate, at such time as the Senate may appoint, shall bring the manuscript journal of the session of 1857-28 into the Senate, and in the presence of the Senate, draw black lines round the said restion, and write across the face thereof, in strong letters, the foliowing words:

ING WORDS:

EXPENSED, BY ORDER OF THE SENATE, THIS — DAY OF
, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND —..." And every succeeding session, so long as be should remain here, he would call for the passage of this reallution; and when the fine should come for him, to leave that chamber, he doubted not that he would leave behind him some member who would persist in pressing this resolution, until the period—which was not far distant—should come when this final, irrevocable and infallible resolution, as it was now preclaimed here to be, should be reconsidered, and not only rescinded but expured.

scinded but expurged.

Mr. Green said they had noted, on his side of the chamber, as they believed to be right, and supposed the Senator from New York had done the same. He deprecated these appeals to popular passion and prejudice. While he was in Government he would submit to Government, and when he was tired of Government he would leave it. He denied that all legislative acts he would leave it. He defined that all legislative are were repealable. For instance, the repeal of the act conveying vested rights did not affect the rights con-veyed. All legislative power is vested in the two Houses of Congress, and therefore the passing upon the question of the election of a member by one House was not a legislative act. It was a special power con-ferred by the Constitution. It was a nonestionably ferred by the Constitution. It was unquestionably right to repeal the resolution about Gen. Jackson and the deposits, for the Senate had no right to pass it criginally; but this was a subject clearly within the sdiction of Congress, and an entirely different

atter. Mr. Half said the difference was the same as in the Mr. Hale said the difference was the same as in the case of the built hat gored the ox. In the case of the resolution of 1834, it was the Whig ox that was gored.

Mr. Green inquired on which side the Senator from New-Hampshire was then—the gored or the gorer!

Mr. Hale said be was then a Democrat, without

are respect to complexion. A man was in those days allowed to believe that "all men are born free and "equal," without interpolating the word "white." He looked upon this question as one of the gravest that could be brought before the Senato. It was the first could be brought before the Senato. It was the first tep toward the perpetuation of the power of the Senate independent of the will of the sovereign States. It was the arbitrary will of the majority bringing men upon that floor who had no right there. It was begging the question to assert that there was no case at all. To offset that, he would give his opinion that the sitting members had no right at all. The Senate had committed a paipable nearpation, and the Legislature of Indiana would be recreant to duty if it had not done what it has done to vindicate the sovereignty of the of Irdians would be recreate to duty it it had not done
what it has done to vindicate the sovereignty of the
State. He believed the rights of the States were being
trodden down by the Senste, and he hoped the people
would teach them that Senstors are servants, not
masters of the people. In a moment of fancied omnipotence, the Senste had committed this usurpation, and
now in their fancied infallibility they would refuse to
undo it. The only appeal was to the tribunal of popular origin, where neither a plea of omnipotence use

lar opinion, where neither a plea of omnipotence nor infallibility will avail.

Mr. Harlas moved that the subject be recommitted quire whether Messrs. Fitch and Bright or Messrs. Lane and McCarthy, or either of them, have been constitutionally and legally elected, and report the facts and the law bearing on the subject to the Senate, and that the contestants be allowed to appear when the report shall be made and argue the question of their wight to sents.

ight to seats.

He desired in some way to give these contestants an He desired in some way to give these contestants an opportunity to be heard, a courtesy which had never before been conied in any contested election. He proceeded to argue that the contestants were legally elected, and that the case now presented was a different one from that presented at the last session.

Mr. Pugu referred to the Rhode Island case, when he had a district the transfer of the case o

one Legislature undertook to annul an election by the preceding Legislature, but was not enstained by the Senate. He was ready to meet the Schator from New-

Senate. He was ready to meet the Senator from New-Hampshire when he should appeal to the people. He had not by his votes made these contested elections party questions, and would refer, to show that fact, to his vote in the case of the lowa contest. Mr. FESSENDEN defended his action in the Iowa case, and showed the distinction between that case and this. In the case of Iowa there was legislative action; in the case of Inciana there was none. The Dempcratic Senators had distinctly repudiated in this case the principle they sought to establish in the other. He argued that the fact there was no power which could revise their decision ought to induce them to re-vise their own decision, and contended that the sitting members had no more constitutional right to their seats than any other two men who might apply for

Mr. BENJAMIN made a weak attempt to defend the

AIT. PANJAMN made a weak attempt to detend the constitutionality of the election of the Sanators from Indiana, and charged the Republican Senators with being influenced by partisan motives.

Mr. FESSENDEN rejoined in a clear and statesman-like exposition of the facts, showing that Mr. Benjamir's declarations were not only unlawyerlike, but that they were not true.

Mr. SEWARD said he did not propose to assail the votes of other Senators part to defaud his own votes.

Mr. Siward said he did not propose to assail the votes of other Senstors, nor to defend his own votes; the record would speak upon that point. He was not disposed to leave this subject to the lawyers of any party; they had had too much of lawyers already, and he had no confidence in them whatever. Lawyers are always disposed to favor the concentration of power against the people. But he did propose to appeal this question to the people; not only the people of Indiana, but of the whole United States. They would be competent to review their acts—the acts of their servants. He could point Senators not only to one, but to several precedents, in which the Senate of the be competent to review their acts—the acts of their servants. He could point Senators not only to one, but to several precedents, in which the Senate of the United States has rescinded, revised or expanged resolutions which had been pressed through by ambition and lust for power. He had cautiously abstained from the line of argument the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Benjamin) had seen fit to pursue in reproaching partisan questions and allusions. But he must take leave now to say, that it was the nature of the Senato, as of any other legislative hody, to decide questions of partisan power by partisan votes. This very decree, which was supposed to be final and infallible, was nothing more or less than the decree of an accidental majority of Democrats overruling an accidental minority of Republican members. He wished human nature was not so weak, but they were all vays liable to be influenced, as he had before remarked, by power, by passion, and by prejudice; and such, he teared, would be the fact in all legislative bodies, henceforth and forever. It was not disrespectful to the Senate, therefore, to remind them of this fact, and to allege, ever, that they had decided this very question by a partisan vote. They had seen a great question carried before the Supreme Court of the United States, with all its awin dignity, and the decision made to square exactly upon party lines. The same infirmity was some years ego manifested in the Episcopal Church, when a certain ecclesiast was tried, and just exactly the number of Bishops who sympathized with the theological opinions of the accused, believed him ited States Senator would be gone. The Constitution made the term six years, but a State Legislature might elect Senators at any time, send them here armed with memorials, and take the chances of political changes to oust sitting members. He did not fully concur with the former decision of the Senate, but that was wholly immaterial, as he held that decision to be wholly irreversible by this body.

Mr. Szward urged strenuously the right of the contextants to be heard on the floor of the Senate. He had not designed, he said, to take much part in this discussion, but to content himself with the simple record of his vote; but in the course of the discussion the question had assumed such an extraordinary shape, and propositions of such momentous, extraordinary and dengerous character had been advanced, that he felt is his duty to protest against them. Gentlems had charged him with introducing many Constitutional begins into the Senate; the event would prove

This decree assailed there rights. When they declared that they sould admit Senators against the protest of a State, and refuse even to hear those she had rest to clean seats, they hav transformed the medves into a close corperation, and comed to be the Senate

the United Sizes.

Mr. Harlan further urged the right of the conterants to be search, and contended that the sitting members were not legally elected.

The vote was then taken on the amendment offered by Mr. Harlan, to recommit the subject to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions, and resulted as

17 AS-Mears, Cameren, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Doolit-tie, October, Froset den, Foot, Hamlin, Harian, King, deward, Trumbun, and Wilson-14.

Tranbull, and Wilson-14.

Trambull, and Wilson-14.

May S-Mears Bayard, Senjamin, Sigler, Broderick, Srown, May S-Mears Bayard, Senjamin, Sigler, Broderick, Srown, Chestrott, Cay, Chraman, Davis, Fignarisk, Orean, Gwin, Busarton, Humer, Ivesson, Johnson (Ark.) Johnson (Fen.) Jotes, Kennedy, Lane, Malkery, Masin, Polk. Pugh, Reid, Rice, Shields, Sidell, Smith, Sanart, Toomba, and Wart-12. The question then recurred on the amendment offared by Mr. Pugh, confirming the dectain of the Senate at the last reasion, and affirming the right of Mesers. Fitch and Bright to their seats as Senators

from Lidians. This was agreed to by the following

Vote:

JEAS-Mesers, Benjamin, Bigler, Brown, Chesnot, Clay,
Clipgans, Davis, Situativa, Green, Gorm. Houston, Hunter,
Iverson, Jehren (Art.), Jones, Kennedy, Inte, Malory, Miser, Pela, Purh, Read, Race, Smielts, Slimb, Santh, Start,
Teembe and Wast-21

hAy-Mesers, Sr. derick, Cameron, Chandler, Clark, Collemer, Boohitte, Bongles, Fessenden, Fost, Hamiln, Harian,
Jounnou (Tenn.), King, Sward, Thumbul and Wisson-16.

The amendment to the Report of the Committee, as

The amendment to the Report of the Committee, as an ended, was then agreed to, as follows:

VEAS—Mesers Bayard, Senjamin, Bigler, Brown, Cheennt, Cley, Chogman, Davis, Fitzpetrick, Green, Gwie, Hedston, Hinter, Iversen, Janson (A.A.), Jones, Kennedy, Ning, Lase, Waltory, Basen, Pok. Puga, Raic, Rico, Shields, added, Santh, Stoatt, Toumbe and Ward—30.

NASE—Mesers, Broderick, Carreton, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Doolst is, Beng as, Fersenden, Foot, Humin, Harian, Johnson (Tenn.), King, Seward, Trumbull and Wilson—15.

The Report of the Committee, as amended, was then

The Report of the Committee, as amended, was then by the following vote:

We have the removing vote:

FEAS-Mesars Benjamin, Bigler, Brown, Chemot, Clay,
Glay, Brigartick, Green, Gwin, Housen, Hunter,
Ivened, Lichner (Aik.), Jehnson (Ren.), Joses, Kennedy,
Lane, Melary, Mason, Pok. Paga, Reic, Rice, Shields, Sinder,
Smith, Start, Tombe and Ward-98

AAYA-Mesars Briderick, Cameron, Chemoler, Clark, Colismer, Doubuits, Douglas, Ferender, Foot, Hamilin, Harlao,
King, Beward, Trumbull and Wilson-15.

At 71 o'clock, after a session of eight and a half

THE FALLACIOUS SCHEMES OF DEMO-

CRATIC REFORM.

From Our Special Correspondent. WASHINGTON, Feb. 15, 1859. In the general hurry-scurry to see who shall be first to propose some really valuable measure of reform in the matter of the national expenditure, all sorts of crudities are brought to light.

A favorite idea is, that the abolition of the frank-

ing privilege is going to work wonders in the Post-Office Department. This is not so. Congress appropriates \$600,000 a year to defray the extra expense of the franked matter, and, beyond a doubt, it more than does it. Knock it all off, and what is the result? Why, out of an excess of expenditure of \$6,000,000, we shall save \$600,000. But there is no reason to suppose there will be any such saving as this even. Look at the mail routes all over the country; look at the 30,000 Postmasters, and let us see where the expense of them will be brought down if the franking privilege is abolished. Will it be in the North-West! Sup-pose the lettings of the States of Iowa, of Wisconsin, of Michigan, of Ohio even, were to be advertised to-morrow, with the agreement that the franking privilege should be abolished. Suppose your contractors to be all assembled in Washing-ton City, and they were one and all asked to offer their proposals on the existing routes on this basis, what deduction would they propose, or could they afford to propose, from their present pay ! Could they save a single trip per annum? Could they reduce the number of their horses, their carriages or their drivers, by a single one? How would it be on the numberless routes in New-York and New-England? It is very doubtful, in my judg ment, whether the difference in the expense be tween carrying the franked matter and not carry ing it, on nearly all the interior lines of the country, would be an appreciable sum in the ex-penditures of the Department. How would it be as regards compensation to the huge army of Postmasters? Would a single man's appointment be canceled, or a single man's salary or pay be reduced? Not a man's. But an increase rather in some cases, growing out of an enlarged quantity o paid matter. The principal saving that would be made would be on the great central railroad lines diverging from this city, where the matter goes out by the tun. But, as it gets away a little, it becomes rapidly subdivided, until the extra weight The principal saving that would loes not seriously affect the expense of the mail service. Certainly, it cannot be thought to do it service. Certainly, it cannot be beyond the \$600,000 now appropriated. remembered that there are but 300 men on Capitol Hill, and that this allows them the enormous sum

of \$2,000 a year a piece to pay their postage.

I say nothing against abolishing the franking priv-I only say it is going to make no such save to the Department as seems to be supposed. The ak is not here. It is in your California service; it is in your steamship service. It lies in the power of favoritism at the head of the Department to establish unnecessary lines of gigantic magnitude at enormous expense, and dip its hand into the general Treasury and take out whatever is necessary to foot the bills. Here is where the mischief lies It is in the lavish and fatal system on which the Post-Office Department is administered. The Department must be made self-sustaining, or it will come (if it be not already becoming) the most infamously corrupt, as it is now one of the most enormously extravagant Departments of the Gov-This is the cure, and the only cure for

the Post-Office Department.

Mr. Hunter was as right in his general views upon this subject, that he put forth yesterday, as he was wrong on the subject of ad valorems. On this latter question the New-York importers have nanipulated and befogged him till he has fallen into a perfect bog of error. Mr. Stanton of Ohio has een some time collecting the facts on this subject. and will soon present the results of his investigation, and demonstrate the existence of immense and systematic frauds constantly practiced under the advalorem system, which, it would seem, must

convince even Mr. Hunter.
You will have observed that Mr. Hunter's ge eral views on the Tariff question were foreshad-owed by Mr. Toombs in his recent speech on the finances; and that there is now an open and public concurrence of sentiment among the influential men of the ruling party on the point that nothing need be and nothing should be, therefore, done with the present Tariff. If anything were wanting before to make it plain that the Tariff will not be disturbed at this session, Mr. Hunter's speech sup-

plies the want. The vote of the House yesterday, refusing Mr. Phelps's motion to suspend the rules to revive the act authorizing a reissue of Treasury notes, shows its temper toward the Administration. Mr. Phelps's motion got 87 votes out of about 200. The men called Democrats, by courtesy, in the House, are a mere aggregation of colliding atoms. They form a party on no one subject or question. Yet I suppese some way will be found to obtain the sanction f a majority of the House to a loan of money su icient to save the credit of the Government either in the form of Treasury notes or of a regular loan. But the Administration is wholly without power in the body, and what it gets will be granted from

grace and forbearance.

Perhaps some day we shall have an Executive Government that will get the Jacksonian magget out of its head, and learn that the House of Repre sentatives is a body to be conciliated, in all its political divisions, and not a mere mob to be insulted

and coerced.

The debate in the Senate yesterday on that infayous fraud, the Indiana Senatorial election, was extremely animated and very able. The groundess pretensions of the sitting men, and the inconsistent and discreditable posture of the Senate of the question, were thoroughly sifted and exposed and put home with great power and effect. The debate should be widely disseminated. The defense of the majority, or rather the absence of its defense, was one of the most marked results of the discussion. The action of the Senate in this case is one of the most mortifying of all the events of its history. It will tend more than anything it has done for a long period, or ever, to diminish the re-spect of the public for its character as a fair and

bonorable body of men. It has deliberately de-graded itself to the level of the grossest partisan-ship. It has done that which I, for one, believed it incapable of doing.

A CLAIMANT THAT FELL AMONG THE DEMOCRATIC THIEVES.

Correspondence of The R. V. Times.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1859.

Correspondence of The R. Y. Times.

Washington, Feb. 14, 1859.

A party who had supplied sundry articles for the use of the H use of Representatives, presented his bill to the Committee on Accounts during the last session, to be "passed" and certified by them in order that he might get his money from the Contingent find, through the Cierk, Mr. Alien. The bill, as is usually the case, was referred by the Committee to one of their number to report upon. The claimant states that he was compelled to agree to give this member of the Committee a portion of the claim, is order to get tim to act wow it, and I am greatly mistaken if there is not strong corroborative evidence of the truth of his declaration. He says further that the Committee cut down the bill custiderably, passing it for the reduced laration. He says larther that the Committee down the bill cursiderably, passing it for the reduced sur, netwithstanding which the member already referred to demanded several hundred dollars for his services, which the claimant declared or failed to

give.

Applying at the Clerk's office for the amount that the Committee had allowed, the claimant was put off until after Congress adjourned, upon the pretext that there was no sporopristical out of which the bill could be paid. This continued until some time during the recess, when the claimant, or a friend who had an interest in the bill, declared his conviction that the noney was withreld because of the refusal to accorde to the corrupt demand made by the member of the to the corrupt demand made by the member of the Committee on Accounts, and threatened to expose the committee on Accounts, and intransaction expose the entire transaction. This demonstration appears to have removed the difficulty growing out of lock of appropriation to pay the bill!

Mr. Corter, Crief Clerk under Mr. Allen, now ad-

dressed an adrest letter to the claimant, indicating that he should consider it his duty not to pay him so long he should consider it his duty not to pay him so long as his charges of improper conduct were pending! This letter accompanied copies of others, which the claimant and his triand were requested to sign, excountance exercises of these letters were signed by the parties in question, who declare that they were induced to sign them because they saw that they could not get their much needed cash in any other way, and also because they were assured that, if they would hush the matter up, the Committee on Accounts should reconsider their original bill at this session, and allow them the difference between it and the reduced sum which had been ordered to be paid. Of course that gromise has not been kept.

sum which had been ordered to be paid. Of course that promise has not been kept.

I repeat, I am well satisfied that these facts can be substantiated by responsible witnesses. The men who, in their anxiety to obtain what they believed to be their just due, were betrayed first into yielding to a highwayman's demand, and subsequent'y into signing certificates of character for the implicated party or parties, are trustworthy, and if brought upon the stand, and are such will not besitate—I am satisfied—to tell parties, are trustworthy, and if brought upon the stand, under eath, will not heatate—I am satisfied—to tell the whole truth, if rigidly examined. There is other evidence also, as before suggested, to corroborate theirs. It remains for the House to say whether or not it will test the accuracy of these statements, and either set them at rest or purge the body of an unwortty member if they prove true. An earnest, well-selected Committee might dispose of the entire case within three days.

POLITICAL

-The late Connecticut Democratic State Convention was not favored with the usual number of Postmasters. There were only about thirty present as delegates.

-A Speaker's warrant has been sent to Philadelphia to the Sergeant-at-Arma's deputy, for the arrest of John Cassin, who has refused to appear before the Sherman Investigating Committee.

-A bill has passed the Michigan House of Representatives amending section 25 of chapter 153 of the Revised Statutes, so as to punish any person bringing a colored person into the State, claiming him as a slave, by imprisonment not exceeding tas years, or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

-It is rumored that Chief-Justice Taney and Judge McLean intend resigning their seats on the bench of the Supreme Court. Both are very eged, and in infirm health, the Chief Justice being over eighty years of age, and Judge McLean seventy-six.

-Resolutions are now pending in the Legislature of Wisconsin, giving the consent of the Legislature to the organization of a new State along the southern shere of Lake M chigan and that portion of the State fof Wisconsin which lies above the 45th degree of latitude, or from about the mouth of the Menomonee River in Green Bay, westward, in nearly a direct line, to the St. Croix branch of the Mississippi River; thence up that branch, on the present boundary, to

-A new bill, fixing the salaries of the State of Indiana, has been introduced into the Legislature of that State. It proposes to give the Governor \$3,000, State Treasurer \$2,500, Auditor of State \$2,000, Secretary and Controller of State (each) \$1,500, Governor's Private Secretary \$500, Superintendent of Public Instruction \$500, State Librarian \$800, Superintendent of Insane Asylum \$1,200, of Deaf and Dumb \$1,000, of Blind \$800, Warden of State Prison \$1,500, Moral Instructor and Physician of same (each) \$500 Judges Supreme Court \$2,000, Circuit Court \$1,500, Common Pleas Court \$800, Prosecuting Attorneys \$500. Ob, if New-York City officials could be brought

down to this standard! -The new Apportionment bill, introduced by the Democrats of the Illinois Legislature, is so arranged that should the Republicans carry the 39 counties, claimed by them, and the 12 doubtful counties, together containing \$25,113 population, they would elect only 39 members of the House; while, if the Damocrats car ried the remaining 49 counties, with a population of 481,576, they would elect 41 members.

-Another case of Welcott obstinacy is foreshadowed by the Washington correspondent of The Philadelphia Press. He says that Wendell, the Public Printer, has been before the Committee which is investigating Seaman's accounts and transactions while Superintendent of Printing. He has not answered certain inquiries touching the application of large sums of money admitted to be received by him from various contractors. The Committee expect to trace this money to Seaman, and will not be banked by a refusal to disclose the truth. It will be proposed, if necessary, to bring this witness to the bar of the House. But, unless that body should be more in earnest than usual, the experiment would result in a temporary restraint of personal liberty and no practical advantage. That was the experience in Wolcott's case, who was a large beneficiary by the passage of the present tariff.

PERSONAL.

-The Queen of England is a grandmother before she is forty years old.

-It has been often predicted that the heavy glass sky lights over the Representatives' Hall in Washington were not sufficiently secure. Early on Tuesday morning, from some unknown cause, a heavy pane fell from the skylight upon the desk and chair of Mr. Nichols of Ohio, who had a moment before left his seat.

-The foreign mail which arrived at Boston, between the death of Mr. Prescott and his burial, contained a letter from Lord Macaulay to one of his Boston correspondents, which speaks in the highest terms of the hird volume of "Philip the Second." The British historian had just read the volume previous to writing to his American friend, and expressed the opinion, that, with the exception of a few chapters of some of Mr. Prescott's previous volumes, his last work was his -Amorg the personal topics of Washington society

just now are three fashionable weldings, all to take place within a mouth, viz: Mr. Eastis, M. C. from Louisiana, to Miss Corcoran, of Washington, daughter of the banker, already widely published; Mr. Riggs of Washington, to Miss Bright, daughter of the Senator from Indiana; Mr. Baylor of Alabama, to Miss Gwin, daughter of the Senator from California. -His Majesty the Emperor of France was sharply

regarded by as American at a late presentation, and pronounced to be like Tom Moore in that he "sits tall." He is shorter than is supposed by those whe have only seen him on horseback. He is much taller, however, than his prophetic ancle. -During the last session of the Illianis Legislature,

the Governor of that State, fellowing the example of

ble emediate prederessors, formally levited his ersis, of all parties, whether residents or strangers, officers or outsiders, then at the capital, to a ceremonious party. The result was a gay assemblage; but the giver of the party found, when the bills came in, that he had spent a year's salary in making four hundred people happy for one evening. This year he adopted a wirer plan of entertainment. Notice was informally given out that the Executive Mancon would be open on Teursday evenings; that the invitation to call was extended to whomsoever would accept it, and that the guests were at liberty to smuse themselves as they pleased when once within doors. The result has been happy. The presence of a cotillion band is completely satisfactory to the young. Between the flow of music and the flow of words, the levees are the social feature of the sesson. No refreshments are seryed; hence nobody gets boozy, and nobody goes solely to eat. The Governor's successor will have reason to thank him for his innovation.

-A precedent of importance to artists has just been established by the injunction granted to Mr. Hays, the excellent animal painter, against a picture dealer, who had caused to be copied and afterward sold spurious duplicates of "The Retriever" -a spirited work of the

-The students of William and Mary College have, in full meeting, resolved that they meet with merited seern any suggestion to abandon the friends of the Colege in their temporary embarrassment-"that, on the contrary, we are fully determined to remain in Willi smaburgh, and conform to the arrangements of the Faculty, until a few brief months have expired, when we trust we shall see 'Dear Oli William and Mary, renovated and rejuvenated, rise from her ruins.

-There is almost sacred clay in a barrel in Albany. The material used by the sculptor Brown in modeling his colossal statue of Clinton was afterward sent to Paimer and used by him in the model of his "Iudian Girl" and the "Dream of the Spirit's Flight." A portion of it was subsequently used by Thompson of this city (he has for eight years finished Palmer's marbles) in the making of his medallions of " Little Nell."

-The Supreme Court at Washington has affirmed o much of the decree of the California District Court as confirms the grant to John A. Sutter for eleven square leagues of land of 18th June, 1841, by Gov. Alvarado, and annulled so much of said decree as confirms a grant to John A. Sutter, for twenty-two leagues of land purporting to have been made by Gov. Micheltorena, 5th February, 1845.

"SUFPERING IN MINNESOTA."

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Sin: While looking over your news columns of this morning's issue, my attention was particularly arrested by your introduction and comments upon the Rev. Mr. Beliows's "appeal in favor of immediate and energetic action by the benevolent of this and other "sea-board cities, for the relief of the scattered pioneers in the extreme north of Michigan, and also in a section "of Minnesots, now threatened with starvation, and "actually suffering for want of food." I have read the appeal, read Mr. Ferris's letters, and that of Mr. lathiel Ellis, and would add:

That I left St. Peter, Nicollet County, Minnesota. early last month; that there was then no suffering for food in that town or county, nor none anticipated; and that there exists less percept ble destitution there than in any community in which I have yet lived. I have been a resident of St. Peter during the last seven years, and never saw any destitution in that town, county, nor in any of the adjoining counties, which the resources of their own citizens could not and did not meet and

alleviate.

Dedge County, the seat of the present alleged destitution, lies 48 miles east of Nicollet County, and is in
the heart of what is called Southern Minnesota, the the heart of what is caused Southern Minnesota, the meet fertile portion of the State. I am safe in saying that nine-tenths of the area of that county has been entered—save school lands—by pre-emptors, and is in most cases owned by them, and that bounty land warrants, instead of being prejudicial to the interests of the settlers, have been the means of saving to most of them. 30 to \$50 in the nurshase of their claims. I of them, \$40 to \$60 in the purchase of their claims. I I have traveled through this county, think it not in-ferror in agricultural capacity to any county in our State, and as it is older settled than its neighbors Mower, Freeboon, Steele, Waseca and Faribault, of whose poverty we hear nothing, I am disposed to re-ceive the statement with extrice.

ceive the statement with cartion.

Further: there has not been any blight, save to the Wheet crop, in my portion of the State, nor, I believe, in Dodge County. The Oat crop was unusually heavy throughout the State. What the Wheat lost by the beavy rains, the Oats gained. Corn was not only as good as usual, but, I think, better, save in low and wet lands; and of neither class is Dodge County. Beans were abundant when I left, and cheap. Pota-

Prices were: Flour, & bb!.
Cern, & bash.
Oats, & bash.
Potatoes, & bash, seld in early Winter.
[No market in mid-Winter in the country.]
Heans, & bush
Perk in hog, & cwt.
Beef in carcass, & cwt. and I must remind you that this was all upon the Minnesota River, where, for several reasons, agricultural produce is higher than in the region of the alleged distress. I am not aware of erops of any kind having been injured by hall in Minnesota during the Summer

1858. I know they were not injured within ange of observation, and I fancy it is the spects as hall-storm of 1857 which is here evoked. Neit the ball-sterm of 1857 which is here evoked. Neither did grasshoppers trouble farmers this past Summer in our State. Indeed, the general behef obtained in the Fall that Minnesota raised more than enough of Potatoes, Corn, Oats, and Beans, for the subsistence of her people. St. Louis wanted potatoes some months ago, and Minnesota supplied, as soon as it was ascertained that the root was worth a dollar or more a bushel, several thousand, I may say with safety several hundred thousand bushels.

red thousand bushels.

I am reminded now that about a year ago the pov I am reminded now that about a year ago the poverty and destitation of the inhabitants of Stearns County, in northern Minnesota, were widely published in the Eastern newspapers, and that the Legislature of that State first learned of the existence of this sad state of things through a New-York paper. I believe the people in question held a meeting and stigmatized their friends who were so solicitous for their comforts in no very measured terms. May it not be thus with the inhabitants of Dedge Co., Minnesota? While I should be sorry to be instrumental in checking the providence of the wealthy and humane in this city, or to turn its stream from its proper direction, I would to turn its stream from its proper direction, I would suggest that no public demonstrations be made upon the menger evidence which at present exists of the destitution in a section of Minnesota "now threatened with starvation and actually suffering for food."

M. WAGNER, No. 46 Beach street.

New York, Feb. 15, 1859.

SHOCKING MURDER AND SUICIDE.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. GRINNELL, Iows, Feb. 11, 1859. Two days since, a gentleman of fine bearing passed

through in the stage eastward, who was called by his fellow-passengers (one of whom was Mr. Durant of Iowa City, late of New-York,) Lieut. Roane, who was from Fort Kearney. Reaching Brooklyn, 15 miles east, for some reason he left the stage, and at night jumped out of the window, saying that robbers were after him. In the morning he said he was not well, but remarked that he did not care what became of him if he could but reach Virginia and see his daughter in that State. While at the hotel of Mr. daughter in that State. While at the hotel of Mr. Conway, he engaged Mr. Haws, a merchant, to convey him to Iown City. He professed great attachment for his new-made friend, and had placed in his hards a sword and a loaded Colt's revolver. The revolver he obtained by some means, and while in the office in the presence of several persons, with a wild expression deliberately fired at Mr. Haws, who fell dead, with a single exclamation, "O my God!" the ball entering his heart. He then pointed to another person in the room, who was not able to wrest the pistol from him, and who fied by the deor, and, returning to peep in at the window, saw Lieut. Roane, the murderer, fall by a ball from his own pistol, deliberately placed at his temple. The murderer and suicide, said he was on his way to Washington on a furlough, and had a letter to the President. He was a man of large size, dark complexion, wearing He was a man of large size, dark complexion, wearing dark whiskers and mustache, and of a frank and gentiemanly appearance. It is thought that he was recovering from the delirium tremens.

The tragic end of Mr. Haws has appearance merits and a gloom

PUBLIC MEETINGS. BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

The Board held a special meeting yesterday afternoon, and, in the absence of the President, Mr. LEND was called to the chair as President pro tem. The Tax Levy .- Mr. LEST stated that the mee

vas called for the sole purpose of considering the Tax Levy for 1859 as it came from the Board of Aldermea. The amendments made by the Committee on Confer-ence were then read by the Reader, after which Mr. Rhodes moved a concurrence with the Board

Mr. Van Tink seconded the motion.

Mr. Van Tink seconded the motion.

The Year and Nays were called, and the motion to concur was lost by 12 to 7.

A motion to reconsider was carried, and the Board laid the matter on the table by 13 Year to 6 Nays.

Mr. Bultiel then moved to take the report from

Mr. Bickyond then moved a concurrence with the

Board of Aldermen.

Mr. RHODES said there were some things in the Tax
Levy which he was opposed to, but he thought that,
for the interest of the city, it should be adopted.

Mr. LAIMEER believed the Committee on Conference had exceeded their duties. He would yote against

the motion.

Considerable discussion followed, and pending the sction of the Board a recess of 20 minutes was taken to allow the members an opportunity of reading the report of the Conference Committee.

report of the Conference Committee.

After recess the motion to cencur was put and adopted by 16 Yeas to 3 Nays.

Messre. Laimbeer, Decker and Barcock explained their votes, which were affirmative, by stating that they were opposed to the tax levy in its present cerdition; but as there were many suffering on account of the delay in its passage, they had resolved to vote as they did. The Board then adjourned.

COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE.

This Board met yesterday afternoon at Police Head-

quarters.
Patrolmen J. W. Linsdale of the Fifteenth Precinct,
George Foster of the Fourteenth, E. Maynard of the
Ninth, and George W. Gaylor of the Pourteenth,
were dismissed from the Department for various

Officer Chas. Sherman was advanced to the Ser-Officer Chab. Sherman was advanced to the Sergeanicy of the Sixth Precinct, Brooklyn. Pending the report on the case of Sergeant Burney of the Twenty-sixth Precinct, he was transferred to the Sixth Precinct. Sergeant Marlow of the Sixteenth was transferred to the Twenty-fifth, and Sergeant Bell of the Fifth to the Sixteenth Precinct.

Sergeant Williams, whom, it will be recollected, was transferred, at the last meeting of the Board, from the precipion of the effects detailed at the Police Courts.

transferred, at the istance of the content of the Folice Courts to the Fourth Precinct, resigned his position in the Department, which was accepted.

The following quarterly report of the Depaty Superintendent was accepted and ordered to be printed.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINVENDENT, NEW-YORK, F.b. I, 1850.

The Hon. F. A. Tallmadge, General Superintendent.

Sin: I beg leave respectfully to submit to you my report of the condition of the force in this city, and the amount of labor performed by the same for the quarter ending Jan. 31. The force now consists of 26 captains, 105 sergeants,

12 roundsmen, 60 detailments, 1,000 patrolmen, and 56 doormen. Total, 1,289, an increase since my last report of 42; but this increase was not made until the middle of January. The whole number of arrests made during the quar-

ter were 13,765, of which 5,955 were married, 6,644 were single, and 1,166 unknown. Feight thousand two hundred and sixty-seven could

read and write; 4,038 could neither read nor write, and ,460 refused to answer the question. Beside the number of arrests, there were 1,367 complaints made to the Corporation Attorney of violations of corporation the Corporation Attorrey of violations of corporation ordinances. The nativity of those arrested were as follows: 2,707 (inclinding 271 colored persons) were natives of the United States; 8,602 of Ireland; 1,041 of Germany; 462 of England; 172 of Scotland; 82 of France; 58 of Canada; 45 of Italy; 12 of Polard; 11 of Wales; 8 of Spain; 8 of West Iedies; 8 of Switchard; 4 of Russia; 4 of China; 4 of Helland; 3 of Portugal; 4 of Sweden, and 524 unknown. The primary cause of 10,094 arrests may be traced to the victous habits of drinking intoxicating liquors to excess.

Your particular attention is directed to the arrests for crimes of a high and dangerous nature, as showing the vigilance and tast of the members of the Department. They are facts, and speak for themselves; and I do think by their being made known to the public, will tend to inspire confidence in the present organiza-

Forty-pine were arrested for attempting to steal, 34

Forty-nine were arrested for attempting to steal, 34 for attempting to commit burglary, and 113 for committing burglary, 305 for grand larceny, 128 for picking pockets, 97 for plassing and attempting to pass counterfeit money, and 17 for the high crime of nurder. Of the several murders committed during the quarter, it is gratifying to be able to state that but one murderer has escaped arrest, and he would probably have been arrested at the time if any alarm had been given. I a'lade to Felix Sanches, who so bratally murdered his father-in-law, Herman Carnan, on the morning of the 6th of January, in Sullivan street, and at the same time nearly killed his wife and mother-in-law. This occurred about 4 o'clock a. m., and was not known, except to the inmatee of the house (and they were afraid to give the alarm), until about 7 o'clock, giving the murderer full time to get out of the city. Greater efforis were made by the memo'clock, giving the murderer full time to get out of the city. Greater efforts were made by the members of the Department to effect the arrest of this unnatural murderer than I have ever known before. Cards were printed in the form of an order from the Deputy Superintendent, and distributed to each member of the force, giving an accurate description of Sanches, and calling upon them to use their utmost exertions to effect his arrest. This same plan, if it meets with your approbation, will in future be adopted for the appreheneion of escaped murderers, and others charged with high crimes.

the apprehension of escaped murderers, and others charged with high crimes.

The amount of property reported to the various station-houses, as having been stolen, amounts in the aggregate to \$25,961.34, of which \$18,626.86 was subsequently recovered, leaving a base ance unrecovered of \$8,334.48. Independent of this, the detective force have recovered stolen goods and money amounting to \$12,219, first loss not ascertained. A portion of this was of robberies committed previous to this quarter, and some of it of robberies committed out of the Metropolitan Police District.

and some of it of robberies committed out of the Metropolitan Police District.

During the quarter, 30,089 poor and destitute persons have been accommodated with lodings at the various Station Houses; 94 leet children sent to the
Alms House, and 498 restored to their parents or guardians; 232 sick, wounded and disabled persons found
in the street were properly cared for, either by carrying them to the Hospital or to the Station-Houses,
where medical aid was promptly afforded them, or assisted to their homes; 150 stray horses, and 83 stray
horses with vehicles attached, restored to their owners; 246 stores and 567 dwellings were found careleasly
left open ata late hour of the hight, and properly secured; 62 fires reported in the various precincts where
the police attended, and 28 fires extinguished by and
with the aid of members of the Department; 29 persons were rescued from drowning; 23 shandoned infasts were found in the street and taken to the AlmsHouse.

House.

Twenty-five thousand and thirty-one telegraph measages have passed to and from the Central Office to the various Station-Houses, by means of which I lost man and 10 lost women were restored to their families; 292 lost children restored to their parents; 164 stray horses restored to their owners; 71 reports of stolen horses, with a full description of them, telegraphed to all stations; a description of 46 new counterfeit bank bills telgraphed to all stations; 30 notifications for the Coroner to hold inquests, &c. The Police telegraph has become a great medium for the prevention and detection of crime, as well as a corongreat convenience to the public.

The Regues Gallery continues to increase in numbers and utility. 374 faces of more or less distinguished rescals now grace the frames. The interest in this new feature in the department for the prevention of crime, and detection of criminals, is unabated. The room in which the gallery is placed is visited daily by many of our fellow-citizens and strangers.

By action of the Board of Palice the Tames 52b.

The room in which the gamery is placed is visited by many of our fellow-entizens and strangers.

By action of the Board of Police, the Twenty-fifth Precinct, comprising the detective force and those statuoned at the City Hall to aid the Mayor in entorcing the detective force and the command of the Corporation ordinances, under the command of Captain Walling, was divided, and the latter put under the command of Captain Leonard, and designated Precinct Twenty-sixth, who assumed his duty on the Sth of January. It is due to Captuin Leonard to say that of January. It is due to Captain Leonard to say unof January. It is due to Captain Leonard to say unhe is an old and experienced officer, well conversate
with the city ordinances, and, although he has been in
command less than a month, he has adopted a system
which will turn into the city treasury thousands of
the confereing the ordinances in respect to hack which will turn into the city treasury thousands of dollars, by enforcing the ordinances in respect to hacks and hackmen, carts and cartimeo, omnibuses and their drivers, keepers of pawn and junk shops, intelligence offices, and others, who, by law, are required to obtain a licence; for the last four years this duty has been very much neglected. I wisu to call your attention to the fact that thirteen out of the twenty two station-houses are without a copy of the Corporation erdinances, although every pains has been taken by me to obtain them. Mr. Valentiac, the Clerk to the Board of Aldermen, has no copies to spare, and inforces me The tragic end of Mr. Haws has spread a gloom through the county. He was a much respected merchant, an able and firm friend of every good cause, and met his sad fate while showing kindness to a stranger. His age was not far from 30 years, and he leaves an alford that them was not far from 30 years, and he leaves an alford that them occupied to spare, and informs me trantic wife, and an infant child, with a large circle of devoted friends, in mourning.

CORRESPONDENT.